

# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Measures Introduced:** 96 public bills, H.R. 1356–1451; and 34 resolutions, H.J. Res. 38–39; H. Con. Res. 103–120, and H. Res. 167–180, were introduced. **Pages H1690–96**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages H1696–97**

**Reports Filed:** Report were filed today as follows:

H. Con. Res. 53, expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the issuance of the 500,000th design patent by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (H. Rept. 109–22);

H.R. 683, to amend the Trademark Act of 1946 with respect to dilution by blurring or tarnishment, amended (H. Rept. 109–23);

H.R. 1038, to amend title 28, United States Code, to allow a judge to whom a case is transferred to retain jurisdiction over certain multidistrict litigation cases for trial (H. Rept. 109–24);

H.R. 366, to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 to strengthen and improve programs under that Act, amended (H. Rept. 109–25); and

H.R. 185, to require the review of Government programs at least once every 5 years for purposes of evaluating their performance (H. Rept. 109–26)

**Page H1690**

**Budget Resolution for Fiscal Year 2006:** The House passed H. Con. Res. 95, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006, revising appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2005, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2007 through 2010, by a yea-and-nay vote of 218 yeas to 214 nays, Roll No. 88. The bill was also considered yesterday, March 16. **Pages H1627–40, H1641–74**

Agreed by unanimous consent that a final period of general debate be in order at the conclusion of consideration of amendments. **Pages H1640–41**

Yesterday it was agreed that during further consideration of the bill, the Hensarling amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 109–19) may be considered out of the specified order.

Rejected:

Obey amendment, No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 109–19, that increases \$15.8 billion in FY06 new BA and outlays for veterans, education, health care needs, homeland security, the environment and infrastructure; and reduces the FY06 tax benefit for those earning more than \$1 million; (by a recorded vote of 180 yeas to 242 noes, Roll No. 82);

**Pages H1627–33**

Debated Wednesday, March 16: Hensarling amendment in the nature of a substitute (Republican Study Committee), No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 109–19, that replaces the current 19 functional categories with four functions: Defense, Homeland Security, Non-Defense Discretionary and Mandatory Spending, and Interest; and accepts the Iraq Operations Reserve Fund and creates a new “rainy day” fund for non-military emergencies (by a recorded vote of 102 yeas to 320 noes, Roll No. 83).

**Pages H1633–40**

Watt amendment in the nature of a substitute (Congressional Black Caucus), No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 109–19, that calls for an additional \$36.3 billion in spending and a \$4 billion deficit reduction for FY 2006 (by a recorded vote of 134 yeas to 292 noes and 3 voting “present”, Roll No. 85);

**Pages H1641–53**

Spratt amendment in the nature of a substitute, No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 109–19, that projects spending and revenue levels that would eliminate deficits and result in a balanced budget by FY 2012 (by a recorded vote of 165 yeas to 264 noes with 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 87);

**Pages H1654–65**

Motion to rise: Rejected the Blumenauer motion that the Committee rise by a recorded vote of 101 yeas, to 313 noes and 1 voting “present”, Roll No. 86.

**Pages H1653–54**

H. Res. 154, the rule providing for consideration of the measure was agreed to yesterday, March 16.

**Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures which were debated yesterday, March 16:

*Expressing concern regarding the occupation of the Republic of Lebanon by the Syrian Arab Republic:* H. Con. Res. 32, amended, expressing the grave concern of Congress regarding the occupation of the Republic of Lebanon by the Syrian Arab Republic, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 419 yeas to 1 nay and 4 voting “present”, Roll No. 84; and

**Page H1640**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: concurrent resolution expressing the grave concern of Congress regarding the occupation of the Lebanese Republic by the Syrian Arab Republic.

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*Expressing concern regarding the continued violations of human rights and civil liberties of the Syrian and Lebanese people by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic:* H. Con. Res. 18, amended, expressing the grave concern of Congress regarding the continuing gross violations of human rights and civil liberties of the Syrian and Lebanese

people by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yeas-and-nays vote of 402 yeas to 3 nays, Roll No. 89. **Pages H1674–75**

**Spring District Work Period:** The House agreed to H. Con. Res. 103, providing for a conditional adjournment of the House and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate. **Page H1675**

**Calendar Wednesday:** Agreed to dispense with the Calendar Wednesday business of Wednesday, April 6. **Page H1675**

**Meeting Hour:** Agreed that when the House adjourn today, it adjourn to meet at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 21, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its concurrence in H. Con. Res. 103, in which case the House shall stand adjourned pursuant to that concurrent resolution. **Page H1675**

**Speaker Pro Tempore:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Wolf, or if not able to perform this duty, Representative Tom Davis (VA) to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through April 5. **Page H1675**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** Three yeas-and-nays votes and five recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1632, H1639–40, H1640, H1653, H1654, H1664–65, H1674, and H1674–75. There were no quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and at 6:15 p.m., pursuant to the provisions of H. Con. Res. 103, it stands adjourned until 2 p.m. on Monday, March 21, unless it sooner has received a message from the Senate transmitting its adoption of the concurrent resolution, in which case the House shall stand adjourned until 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 5, 2005.

## *Committee Meetings*

### **AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Under Secretary for Rural Development. Testimony was heard from Gilbert Gonzalez, Acting Under Secretary, Rural Development, USDA.

### **DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Air Force Posture. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department

of the Air Force: Peter B. Teets, Acting Secretary; and GEN John P. Jumper, Chief of Staff.

The Subcommittee also met in executive session to hold a hearing on Air Force Acquisition. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Air Force: Peter B. Teets, Acting Secretary; and LTG John D. W. Corley, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Acquisitions.

### **DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on the Department of Homeland Security held a hearing on Citizenship and Immigration Services. Testimony was heard from Eduardo Aguirro, Jr., Director, Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security.

### **DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the Secretary of Labor. Testimony was heard from Elaine L. Chao, Secretary of Labor.

### **DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, AND HUD, JUDICIARY, D.C., AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Testimony was heard from Alphonso R. Jackson, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

### **INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a hearing on Bureau of Indian Affairs. Testimony was heard from James Casen, Assistant Deputy Secretary, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior.

### **SCIENCE, THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE, JUSTICE, AND COMMERCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS**

*Committee on Appropriations:* Subcommittee on Science, the Departments of State, Justice, Commerce, and Related Agencies held a hearing on the SBA. Testimony was heard from Hector V. Barreto, Administrator, SBA.